

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 HA-05 EB-08
OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 INT-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 /157 W
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R 200137Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1476
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02050

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 18

1. SUMMARY: SANCTIONS COMMITTEE MAY 18 DISCUSSED SIX
GENERAL SUBJECTS MOST OF WHICH ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY
USSR. OF NOTE, COMMITTEE AGREED TO RETAIN ITS GENERAL
PRINCIPLE OF CLOSED MEETINGS AND TO LEAVE PENDING WITHOUT
DECISION THE ISSUE OF EXTENSION OF SANCTIONS TO SOUTH
AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. RHODESIAN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE MET MAY 18 IN SECOND
OF TWO MEETINGS DEVOTED TO GENERAL SUBJECTS. SUBJECTS
DISCUSSED INCLUDED:

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(A) DEFINITION OF EXCEPTIONS TO THE SANCTIONS FOR
MEDICAL, HUMANITARIAN OR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES: USSR
(VIDYAKIN) COMPLAINED THAT EXCEPTIONS ESTABLISHED BY
RESOLUTION 253 WERE BEING USED TO CIRCUMVENT SANCTIONS.
HE PROPOSED EITHER THAT COUNTRIES WISHING TO SEND
MEDICAL, ETC. SUPPLIES TO RHODESIA NOTIFY THE COMMITTEE
IN ADVANCE OR THAT THE COMMITTEE DRAW UP AN AGREED LIST

OF GOODS WHICH WOULD BE ALLOWABLE UNDER THE EXCEPTIONS. UK (RELLIE) AND U.S. (GRAHAM) ARGUED THAT IDEA OF PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MEDICAL, ETC. EXPORTS WAS UNWORKABLE AND THAT DRAWING UP A LIST WOULD NOT MEET THE USSR'S CONCERN SINCE IT WAS NOT JUST THE TYPE OF GOODS BUT THE RECIPIENT OF THE GOODS THAT WAS IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT AN EXCEPTION TO SANCTIONS WAS VALID. USSR REP THEN REPLIED THAT HIS CONCERN WAS ONLY THAT SANCTIONS BE OBSERVED. COMMITTEE AGREED TO KEEP A SHARP EYE ON ANY EXPORTS TO RHODESIA JUSTIFIED UNDER MEDICAL, ETC. EXCEPTIONS PROCEDURES AS IT EXAMINED SPECIFIC CASES IN THE FUTURE.

(B) INFORMATION FROM STATES CONCERNED WITH REGARD TO MEASURES TAKEN BY THEM TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THE RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION: USSR SIMPLY STATED THAT ITS PURPOSE IN PROPOSING THIS ITEM WAS TO URGE ALL STATES TO SUPPLY MORE AND BETTER INFORMATION ON ALLEGED SANCTIONS VIOLATIONS. COMMITTEE AGREED.

(C) COOPERATION WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND OTHER RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS AND, WHERE NECESSARY, WITH INDIVIDUAL PERSONS: USSR AND NIGERIA (ADEYEMI) USED THIS ITEM TO RENEW LONG STANDING ATTEMPT TO SECURE PERMANENT STATUS ON COMMITTEE FOR OAU REP. US AND UK ARGUED THAT PRESENT PROCEDURE OF ISSUING INVITA-CONFIDENTIAL

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TION OAU REP TO ATTEND COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON AN AD HOC BASIS HAD PROVED PERFECTLY ADEQUATE. BOTH QUESTIONED THE PRECEDENT THAT MIGHT BE SET BY ADDING A NON-SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBER TO A COMMITTEE OF THE SC. US ALSO NOTED THAT EVEN WHEN OAU REP HAD BEEN INVITED, HE VERY OFTEN DID NOT BOTHER TO ATTEND. COMMITTEE TOOK NO ACTION ON THIS ITEM BUT AGREED TO LEAVE IT ON THE AGENDA.

(D) DISCONTINUANCE EXCEPT IN ESSENTIAL CASES OF THE PRACTICE OF HOLDING CLOSED MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND ADOPTION OF FURTHER MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT ITS WORK IS GIVEN PUBLICITY: USSR REP REFINED THIS PROPOSAL BY SUGGESTING THAT WHILE MEETINGS DEALING WITH SPECIFIC CASES MIGHT REMAIN CLOSED, ALL MEETINGS ON GENERAL SUBJECTS SHOULD BE OPEN. US, SUPPORTED BY NIGERIA, ARGUED THAT GENERAL MEETINGS WERE OFTEN HELD TO HEAR TESTIMONY ON SENSITIVE SUBJECTS (E.G. BERNARD RIVERS ON OIL SANCTIONS) AND THAT THEREFORE THE COMMITTEE MIGHT BE UNDERMINING ITS SOURCES OF INFORMATION BY OPENING GENERAL MEETINGS TO THE PUBLIC. UK ARGUED THAT SPECIFIC CASES WERE OFTEN DISCUSSED DURING MEETINGS ON GENERAL SUBJECTS AND GENERAL SUBJECTS WERE OFTEN DISCUSSED AT MEETINGS ON

SPECIFIC CASES. HE SAID FURTHER THAT THE COMMITTEE'S PUBLIC RELATIONS OPERATION ALREADY WORKED VERY WELL. ACTING CHAIRMAN (VENEZUELA - CARAZO) NOTED EVIDENT LACK OF CONSENSUS AND SUGGESTED THAT COMMITTEE STICK TO ITS PRESENT SYSTEM OF CLOSED MEETINGS WITH THE OPTION OF AGREEING TO OPEN MEETINGS ON AN AD HOC BASIS.

(E) EXTENSION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. NIGERIA POINTED OUT THE RELEVANCE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE PROBLEM OF TIGHTENING SANCTIONS ON RHODESIA AND URGED THE COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE A GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT. HE IMPLIED THAT IF ONLY THE COMMITTEE WOULD AGREE TO LAUNCH ITSELF INTO A SUBSTANTIVE DIS-

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02050

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

CUSSION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ROLE IN SANCTIONS BUSTING, DECISIONS COULD BE TAKEN TO CLOSE THIS MAJOR LOOPHOLE IN RHODESIA SANCTIONS. UK AND FRANCE (DUQUE) CHARGED THAT COMMITTEE HAD NO RIGHT TO DISCUSS SOUTH AFRICA AND WOULD EXCEED ITS MANDATE BY DOING SO. US SAID THAT RHODESIA SANCTIONS COMMITTEE INDEED HAD NO MANDATE TO DISCUSS SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WHICH WOULD BE AIMED AT FORCING AN END TO APARTHEID. REGARDING EXTENSION OF

RHODESIA SANCTIONS TO SOUTH AFRICA TO SECURE SOUTH AFRICAN COMPLIANCE WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS, COMMITTEE HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED SUCH OPTIONS -- NOTABLY IN ITS HEARING OF SANCTIONS EXPERT BERNARD RIVERS. NEVERTHELESS, LONG AND ELOQUENT STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA JUST MADE BY NIGERIAN REP DESERVED AN ADEQUATE REPLY WHICH US REP WOULD LIKE TO ATTEMPT:

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COMMITTEE SHOULD FACE FACT, US REP STATED, THAT SIMPLY DISCUSSING SOUTH AFRICA BY NO MEANS WOULD RESULT IN DECISIONS TO EXTEND SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. THE USG AND PROBABLY OTHERS WOULD OPPOSE SUCH MEASURES. SOUTH AFRICA REMAINED AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE SUCCESS OF ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. FURTHERMORE, THE USG WAS COMMITTED TO A DELICATE CARROT AND STICK APPROACH IN ITS BILATERAL DEALINGS WITH SOUTH AFRICA ON, FOR EXAMPLE, ENDING APARTHEID AND SOUTH AFRICA'S ACCESSION TO THE NPT. THE WHOLE US STRATEGY ASSUMED THAT IT WAS STILL POSSIBLE TO REASON WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, AND OTHER PROBLEMS DEALT WITH BILATERALLY. THAT STRATEGY COULD BE UNDONE BY THE EXTENSION OF SANCTIONS TO SOUTH AFRICA IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORCE SOUTH AFRICAN COMPLIANCE WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS. THE COMMITTEE TREATMENT OF THE OIL ISSUE LAST FALL HAD INDICATED THAT IF THE COMMITTEE WISHED TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF TOTALLY CUTTING OFF OIL TO RHODESIA IT WOULD HAVE TO AGREE TO A FULL-SCALE OIL EMBARGO ON SOUTH AFRICA. THE USG WAS SIMPLY NOT WILLING TO AGREE TO SUCH STEPS AT THIS TIME. US REP UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS VIEW WAS UNPOPULAR WITH SOME MEMBERS BUT THERE WAS NO SENSE IN MINCING WORDS. US WAS NOT BEING APOLOGETIC OR DEFENSIVE. US BELIEVED THAT ITS PRESENT MEASURED POLICY IN DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICA WAS CORRECT. IT WAS CONSTANTLY UNDER REVIEW AND IT COULD CHANGE WITH EVENTS. THE USG WAS NOT NOW READY TO CHANGE IT. COMMITTEE THEN AGREED TO DEFER FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT.

(F) THE MAKING OF A SANCTIONS AGAINST THE ILLEGAL REGIME OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA STRICTLY MANDATORY:
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COMMITTEE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO REVIEW THE SPECIFIC WORDING OF THE VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS WHICH DEALT

WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS TO DETERMINE WHICH MEASURES
MIGHT BE AGREED TO BE STRICTLY MANDATORY AND WHICH NOT.

3. BY PRIOR AGREEMENT COMMITTEE WILL NOW DEVOTE ITS
NEXT FOUR MEETINGS TO CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC
CASES. LEONARD

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